

1946

LIBRARY BOARD MEETING - JANUARY 28, 1946

A meeting of the Clarke County Library Board was held on Monday, January 28, 1946, at 8 P.M. at the home of the chairman, Mrs. J.J. Wilkins.

Members present were Mrs. Wilkins, Mrs. J.W. Bailey, Mrs. T.H. McHatton, Mr. T.S. Mell, Mrs. L.M. Shadgett, Mr. Harris Thurmond, and Mr. Paul Williams. Mrs. Shadgett was asked to act as secretary.

Minutes of the Regional Library Board meeting held December 14, 1945 were read and approved.

There followed a lengthy general discussion of the affairs of the Library, including a report and recommendations by Mrs. Wilkins and a report by Mr. Williams of his meeting with Miss Lucille Nix of the State Library Department.

The following motions, proposed by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Thurmond, were passed:

"That the Board accept the resignation of Mrs. Duncan Burnet as of February 1, 1946."

"That the Board ask Miss Charlotte Newton's family for her resignation, to take effect immediately."

Mr. Williams was appointed to talk to Mr. Newton regarding this matter.

Olive H. Shadgett
Acting Secretary

Library Board

Mar 13 '46

1. Call to order - Roll call - Minutes -
2. Treasurer's report 1830.56
3. Librarian's report -

Mrs. Burnett, Acting Director, resigned Feb. 1 '46
Bus. handled by Hughes + Bone + Wilkins

4. Approval of bills - Bookcases, etc. Books.
in basement.

5. Communications -

Newton letter - Board act upon it.

Mrs. Wilkins reply.

Advise Newton Board accepts resignation

Mention Nix letter (copies to all members)

Wilkins reply - 3/13/46

Daniel letter.

6. Unfinished Business

App't New Director Region - Shadgett &

McNorton to work with Wilkins!

7. New Business

Discuss new set up -

1. Reg. ~~Libr~~ Libr.

2. Athens Libr.

3. Ashford - Bookmobile Libr.

4. Deonee - 2 Branches. we cannot carry

on on past appropriations - 1946 will have to be changed

Hamilton
Mumford
Ashford
Cabaniss
McCl
Williams
Wilkins

ATHENS REGIONAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

July 17, 1946

The Athens Regional Library Board held a meeting on Wednesday, July 17, 1946, at 4 o'clock at the Y.M.C.A. Building.

Members present were Mrs. J.J. Wilkins, Chairman, Mr. W.A. Ashford, Mrs. J.W. Bailey, Mrs. T.H. McHatton, Mrs. L.M. Shadgett. Also, Mr. Harry Elder, member of the Clarke County Commissioners, and Miss Mary Towns, of Greenville, S.C., prospective applicant for the position of Director of the Athens Regional Library.

Copies of a semi-annual report on the Athens Regional Library were distributed, showing finances, book stock, and circulation for the period from January through June, 1946.

The chairman announced that Mrs. *Marie* Basinski, a graduate of the Atlanta Library School, had been employed to assist Mrs. Burnet in the Athens branch of the library.

She announced, also, that a increase of \$500 annually had been allowed by the State Library Board to take care of the third county in the Regional set-up. In addition to this she stated that Oconee County had agreed to raise its contribution to the library budget to \$800 for the coming year.

Mrs. Wilkins then introduced Miss Mary Towns, a librarian of wide experience, who is highly recommended by the State Library Board for the position of Director of the Athens Regional Library. Miss Towns' qualifications and background were discussed and her ideas solicited regarding the Regional Library. Following a general discussion, Miss Towns retired from the meeting.

The following motion, proposed by Mrs. McHatton and seconded by Mrs. Shadgett, was passed: "That Miss Mary Towns be elected as Director of the Athens Regional Library at a salary of \$225.00 per month with an additional \$25.00 per month allowed for traveling expenses. That her election be effective as of August 1, with the understanding that she will spend the month of August in study of Regional Libraries and begin active service in Athens on September 1, 1946. That her contract be for a period of two years if possible but not less than one year."

A motion, made by Mr. Ashford and seconded by Mrs. McHatton, was passed "That a letter of appreciation be sent to Miss Alma Hughes for her untiring efforts in carrying on during the absence of a Director".

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 o'clock.

Olive H. Shadgett
Olive H. Shadgett
Acting Secretary

ATHENS REGIONAL LIBRARY: CLARKE COUNTY
BOARD MEETING
September 13, 1946

& Clarke County

A called meeting of the Athens/Library Board was held in the work room of the Library on Friday morning, September 13, 1946, at 9:45 a.m. Members present were Mrs. John J. Wilkins, Chairman, Mrs. T. H. McHatton, Mr. T. S. Mell and Mr. Harris Thurmond.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mrs. Wilkins explained the purpose of the called meeting was two-fold: first, to consider what the Board might wish to do about the option for \$20,000 on the old Stern house and lot, corner of Hancock and College Streets, which has to be taken up in November if the Library wishes to buy it; second, to introduce Miss Mary Townes, the new Director of the Athens Regional Library.

Brief discussion followed on the crowded condition of the Library. It was pointed out that the YMCA has asked for the space we are occupying as soon as we can find another building. It was also reported that the Library's cramped quarters are an impediment to efficient service. Since a quorum of the Board was not present it was agreed to appoint a Building Committee to look into the matter of taking up the option, getting expert advice on costs of adapting the Stern house.

A visit to the proposed site was suggested and the meeting adjourned to the Stern house. Miss Townes and Mrs. Burnett, Librarian of the Athens Library, accompanied the Board members. The group inspected the premises with interest and, on the whole, approval.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Mary E. Townes

Mary E. Townes
Acting Secretary

ATHENS - CLARKE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

October 9, 1946

A called meeting of the Athens and Clarke County Library Board was held in the work room of the Library on Wednesday, October 9, 1946, at 2:30 p.m.

Members present: Mrs. John Wilkins, Mrs. J. W. Bailey, and Mr. T. S. Mell. Also present were Mrs. Duncan Burnet and Miss Mary Townes. Since there was no quorum, no action could be taken.

The Board discussed at some length the problem of getting the City Council members/interested in voting to take up the option for the library building. Candidates for the Council from the various wards were noted, and persons who might possibly "sell" the idea of the library building to the candidates/and to the Council members were lined up. Plans were made to get word of the Library's need to every civic organization. Mrs. Wilkins appointed the following committee to undertake this : Mrs. Bailey, Chairman, Mrs. Burnet, and Miss Townes.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Mary E. Townes
Mary E. Townes
Acting Secretary

ATHENS - CLARKE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

November 8, 1946

A called meeting was held in the Library work room at 9:30 a.m.

Members present: Mrs. J. W. Wilkins, Jr., Mr. Harris Thurmond,
Mrs. T. H. McHatton, Mrs. J. W. Bailey,
Mrs. L. M. Shadgett, Mr. Harry Elder,
Mr. T. S. Mell

Also present: Miss Townes

Motion was made and carried to dispense with reading of the minutes of the last meeting.

Discussion followed concerning the decision of the County Commissioners on November 5 to hold an election on a bond issue for \$50,000 to purchase, remodel, and equip a library building for the Athens Regional Library the old Charles Stern house on the corner of College and Hancock Streets. Mrs. Wilkins mentioned that the first, fourth and fifth wards would need the most work. She noted that the schools had done excellent work in getting out the vote for a bond issue for schools, with Chase Street School winning first prize. She suggested that the list of registered voters be blocked off and assigned to individuals who would be responsible to see that the vote was brought out. Mrs. McHatton spoke of the need of facing the difficulties of winning the election and of working as hard on it as if we thought we might easily lose.

Mr. Thurmond named as voting places: Bradbury, Kenneys, Sandy Creek, Winterville, Georgia Factory, Buck Branch, Puryears, and Athens District. For Athens District, all voting is done in the Court House.

It was noted that 51% of the vote cast, not 51% of the registered voters, as formerly, would carry the election.

Mrs. Wilkins reported that the members of the City Council were informed by phone on Wednesday, November 6 before their meeting that night that the County Commissioners had taken action to provide a home for the Library. Several ^{members of the City Council} expressed relief.

There was further discussion concerning the possible opposition to the bond issue, especially from taxpayers afraid of an increase in taxes. Mr. Elder pointed out how little the average citizen would be affected, and Mrs. McHatton suggested that facts and figures be compiled to be given to workers for the election.

A motion was made and carried that the Library Board go on record as approving the action of the County Commissioners and as expressing determination to get behind the drive for a favorable vote on the bond issue.

(over)

The following committess were appointed:

Mrs. Bailey as Chairman of the Committee to work with PTA groups to get out the vote.

Mrs. McHatton as Chairman of newspaper publicity.

Mrs. Shadgett was asked to get publicity to the schools through the PTA's.

The wish was expressed that Mrs. Jenkins might be willing to work through the churches.

Mrs. Wilkins announced that she has asked the County to hold the election as soon as possible. Date requested - Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1946.

It was decided to hold an organization meeting of school superintendents, Principals, P.T.A. presidents, heads of church organizations, and presidents of civic clubs next Friday, November 15, 1946 at 8 p.m. at Civic Hall.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Townes

Mary E. Townes
Acting Secretary

ATHENS - CLARKE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

December 2, 1946

A called meeting was held in the Library work room at 11:30 a.m.

Members present: Mrs. J. W. Wilkins, Jr.
Mrs. T. H. McHatton
Mrs. L. M. Shadgett
Mrs. J. W. Bailey
Mr. T. S. Mell

Also present: Miss Townes

Mrs. Wilkins announced the purpose of the meeting was to choose a date for the Bond Issue election. She reported that our decisions of last meeting were not carried out because the Commissioners were unable to move quickly enough to announce the bond issue election so that it could be held before the Christmas rush. Immediately after the last Board meeting, the hospital-promoters had persuaded the County Commissioners to include the hospital bond issue in the same election as the library bond issue, framing the questions so that the voters could vote on the two bond issues separately.

Discussion followed as to whether or not this decision to include the hospital bond issue in the same election would work to our favor. Mrs. McHatton concluded the discussion by pointing out that whether or not it is in our favor, we might as well make the best of it, as there is no alternative.

It was generally agreed among the Board members that the election should be held as soon as possible, and therefore in January. Tuesday and Wednesday were suggested as the best days of the week and there was no unanimity on the choice between those days. After discussion the Board approved suggesting Tuesday January 28, 1947 and Wednesday, January 29, 1947 to the Commissioners, allowing them the choice. Miss Townes was asked to check the weather with the Weather Bureau, if possible.

Discussion followed as to best methods of publicity.

It was agreed that it would be good to have a pictorial-statistics leaflet, but financed by donations if possible, or by advertisements, not by public funds. Mrs. McHatton suggested a radio program in interview or round table form such as Mr. Firor used in his campaign. Mrs. Bailey suggested Miss Rhoomfield or Mrs. Paddock might appear at PTA meeting and tell the parents about the story hour; also that children in costume representing book characters might be on stage in between feature movies. Mrs. Bailey also mentioned that Miss Mary Wood (Phone 1429) is good at writing publicity. Mrs. Wilkins said that Mrs. Moselle Weston would be willing to help in publicity program. The Board agreed that all plans for publicity and campaign should be completed by two weeks before the actual election date.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Mary E. Townes
Mary E. Townes, Acting Secy

ATHENS REGIONAL LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

December 18, 1946

The regular semi-annual meeting of the Athens Regional Library Board was held at the Holman Hotel on December 18th as a luncheon meeting at 1 p.m.

Members present: Clarke County: Mrs. Jack Wilkins, Mrs. J. W. Bailey, Mrs. T. H. McHatton, Mrs. L. M. Shadgett; Oconee County: Mr. C. E. Anthony (Superintendent of Schools) and Mr. W. H. Ashford; Oglethorpe County: Mrs. E. O. Cabaniss and Mrs. W. H. Calloway. Also present: Miss Townes,

A motion was made and carried to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting.

Mrs. Wilkins led a discussion of how the County Library Boards might be made to function more efficiently. Mrs. Calloway and Mrs. Cabaniss emphasized the need for frequent meetings, and suggested rotating chairmanship. Suggestions were made by several of particular persons who might be willing to serve on the Board in Oconee.

The Regional Library budget for 1947 was discussed, copies having been distributed to each person present. Mr. Anthony forcefully presented the point of view of Oconee County, which he reports willing to bear its fair share of the Library costs, but which expects to be considered by Athens as contributing to the wealth of Athens, which is its trading area. The Commissioners and the Board of Education members, particularly the former, he said, still needed to be "sold" on the idea of the Library. Mrs. McHatton emphatically supported his view, and it was agreed by the other members of the Library Board that all the governing bodies of the three counties needed "selling" on the Library's increased budget. Mr. Anthony suggested that a dinner meeting be held to acquaint all the members of the Boards of Education and the Boards of Commissioners of the three counties with the Library program. The Regional Library Board approved his suggestion and set a tentative date for January 6, 1947.

It was moved by Mr. Anthony and seconded by Mr. Ashford that the Library Board tentatively adopt the budget proposed for 1947. The motion was unanimously carried.

Annual leave for library staff members was discussed. The following motion, made by Mr. Ashford and seconded by Mrs. Bailey was unanimously adopted: That the annual vacation with pay for the staff be as follows: one month for professional staff, two weeks for clerical staff, proportionate time for part-time staff.

Miss Townes was asked to prepare a report on the policy that should be adopted for sick leave.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Townes
Mary E. Townes
Acting Secretary